

## **Speaker Information**

First

Suburbs Consortium For First Suburbs Consortium Membership Meetings

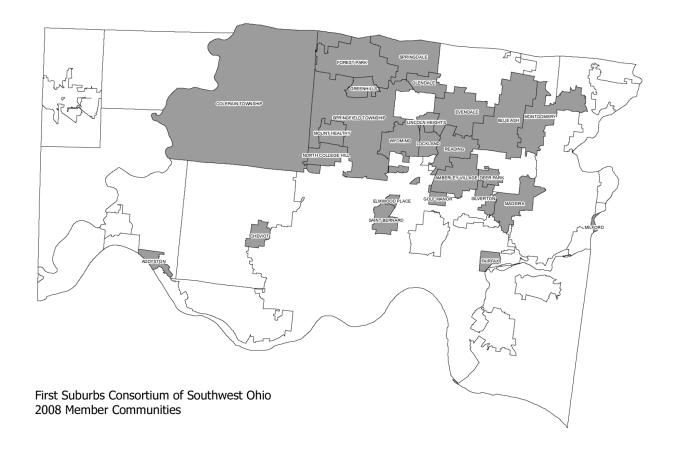
First Suburbs are older, built out communities immediately adjacent to the urban core in Hamilton County. These are cities and villages that, according to the Brookings Institution, are caught in a "policy blind spot". Economic and social problems similar to those in large cities impact these smaller communities, but state and federal aid is not as readily available compared with urban areas. Many of Hamilton County's first suburbs are dealing with significant problems of population loss, economic decline, housing deterioration, and declining school quality. Challenges in these communities are offset by their convenient locations, historic character, and amenities that attract new residents.

First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio (FSC-SW) is primarily a planning organization which educates and builds partnerships among our member communities for redevelopment projects, public service sharing agreements, and marketing. FSC-SW occasionally takes positions on certain policies or pending state legislation. But FSC-SW is a non-partisan organization and does not engage in political campaign activities or make donations to specific candidates for office. FSC-SW is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated as a non-profit with the State of Ohio (as First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio, Inc.).

With 26 cities, townships, and villages as members, FSC-SW represents about 257,000 Hamilton County residents. These communities are represented on the membership board by mayors, trustees, council members, municipal managers, or other appointed officials. This group is experienced with community development, public administration, planning and zoning, and public finances--all the things necessary to a functioning community. Collectively, this group has faced almost any problem that can occur in local government. Your presentation should respect this knowledge, build on it, and not retread familiar concepts.

FSC-SW will have several items on the membership meeting agenda. Some time is set aside at the beginning of the meeting for the Board of County Commissioners to talk about new projects or policies and answer questions. After this, the group will take care of any organization business they have--adopting resolutions, amending bylaws, voting on different items, and so forth. Then it is time for your presentation. FSC-SW normally schedules twenty minutes on the agenda for guest speakers (ten to fifteen minutes of content followed by questions and discussion). We could stretch this time if necessary depending on how many other items are scheduled, but twenty minutes is an ideal length. Try to stick to it.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Andy Dobson, Senior Planner with the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission at 946-4466 or andy.dobson@hamilton-co.org.



## First Suburbs Consortium Executive Committee Members

- 1. John Smith: Chair Mayor, City of Silverton
- 2. Dan Pillow: Vice-Chair Mayor, Village of Addyston
- 3. Jim O'Reilly: Treasurer Vice Mayor, City of Wyoming
- 4. Tom Moeller: City Manager, City of Madeira
- 5. Dan Pillow: Mayor, Village of Addyston
- 6. Mark Weber: Council Member, City of Blue Ash
- 7. Jenny Kilgore: Council Member, Village of Glendale